

Message Text

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INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 ISO-00 HEW-08 NSF-04 AID-20 CEA-02

CIAE-00 COME-00 EB-11 EA-11 FRB-03 INR-11 IO-14

NEA-14 NSAE-00 RSC-01 OPIC-12 SP-03 TRSE-00 CIEP-02

LAB-06 SIL-01 SWF-02 OMB-01 OIC-04 CU-05 DRC-01 /168 W

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FM USMISSION OECD PARIS

TO SECSTATE WASH DC 3352

UNCLAS SECTION 01 OF 02 OECD PARIS 17822

DEPT PASS NIE/HEW FOR GLENNAN; OE/HEW FOR LEESTMA

E.O. 11652

TAGS: SCUL, OECD

SUBJECT: CERi GOVERNING BOARD MEETING, JULY 15-16

REF: USOECD 10774

1. SUMMARY: MEETING LARGELY UNEVENTFUL AND PRO-FORMA. WORTHY OF SPECIAL NOTE WERE CRITICAL COMMENTS OF NORWEGIAN DELEGATE EIDE WHO FELT CERi SHOULD CONFINE ACTIVITIES EXCLUSIVELY TO EDUCATION RATHER THAN RELATIONSHIP WITH MANPOWER, ENVIRONMENT, SCIENCE ET AL. SWEDISH DELEGATE LOWBEER DIFFERED, EXPRESSING SATISFACTION WITH CERi, STATING EDUCATION MUST BE RELEVANT TO INDIVIDUALS' OVERALL WELL-BEING. SWEDISH, AUSTRALIAN, TURKISH, AND UK DELEGATES EXPRESSED VARYING DEGREES OF DISSATISFACTION WITH GB'S GENERALLY PASSIVE ROLE AND SUGGESTED WAYS TO IMPROVE ITS PROCEDURES. END SUMMARY.

2. REVIEW OF COUNTRY INTEREST IN CERi - CERi/CD(74)5
1ST REVISION.

LOWBEER (SWEDEN) COMMENTED ON INCREASING POWER OF THE
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SECRETARIAT, SUGGESTING THAT WORK BE PERFORMED BY AD HOC

GROUPS. AUSTRALIAN NOTED GEOGRAPHIC DISTANCE AND RESULTANT POOR COMMUNICATIONS AS CRITICAL FACTORS. HE THEREFORE PROPOSED THAT COUNTRIES SUBMIT WRITTEN PROPOSALS ON ITEMS OF SPECIAL INTEREST. THIS WOULD DIMINISH NEED FOR GB MEETINGS. AUSTRALIAN FURTHER NOTED PROGRAM PROPOSALS SHOULD BE SUBMITTED SUFFICIENTLY IN ADVANCE TO ENABLE MEMBER COUNTRIES TO DEVELOP POSITIONS.

3. CERI STRUCTURE AND FUNCTION.

CERI DIRECTOR GASS MADE FOLLOWING OBSERVATIONS IN RESPONSE TO COMMENTS FROM THE FLOOR: A) CERI EXISTS TO PROVIDE COOPERATIVE APPROACH AND BE RESPONSIVE TO SPECIFIC INTERESTS OF MEMBER COUNTRIES; B) MEMBER COUNTRIES MAKING COUNTRY-SPECIFIC REQUESTS SHOULD FINANCE THE PROJECT, PROVIDED THE PROJECT DOES NOT CONFLICT WITH CERI WORK PROGRAM (GASS TOOK OPPORTUNITY TO EXPRESS HOPE THAT US CONTRIBUTION WILL INCREASE); C) CERI IS NOT A CLEARING HOUSE FOR EDUCATIONAL MATERIALS OR POLICIES.

4. CERI REORGANIZATION.

GASS PROPOSED ESTABLISHING COUNTRY DESK OFFICERS WITHIN SECRETARIAT TO MONITOR ACTIVITIES OF, ESSENTIALLY, GEOGRAPHICALLY DISTANT COUNTRIES (AUSTRALIA, JAPAN). DESK OFFICERS WOULD, HOWEVER, CONTINUE THEIR REGULAR FUNCTIONS. EIDE AFFIRMED SECRETARIAT, AS A WHOLE, SHOULD DEAL WITH ALL COUNTRIES TO AVOID EXCESSIVE BUREAUCRATIZATION AND IMPROVE CROSS-FERTILIZATION. UK CONCURRED IN NORWAY'S DOUBTS. AUSTRALIAN DELEGATE COMPLAINED OF FORMAL GB MEETINGS WHICH LACK FREE AND SUBSTANTIVE DISCUSSION.

NESBIT (UK) FOLLOWED WITH QUESTIONS: "...IS THE GOVERNING BOARD NECESSARY? IS IT THE BEST WAY TO OVERSEE CERI?" (COMMENT: IN PRIVATE CONVERSATION, REPORTING OFFICER INFORMED BY MEMBER UK PERMANENT DELEGATION THAT NESBIT PERSONALLY WOULD PREFER CERI TO BE INTEGRAL PART OF EDUCATION COMMITTEE.)

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5. COMPULSORY SECONDARY EDUCATION - CERI/CD(74)L2.

AT PREVIOUS SESSION GB REQUESTED REFORMULATION OF PROJECT I, AREA II: INNOVATION PRACTICES IN SECONDARY EDUCATION (REFTEL, PARA 2). GB APPROVED REVISED PROJECT. HOWEVER, GB FELT THE STUDY SHOULD NOT EXTEND FOR THE TIME BEING TO THE POST-COMPULSORY STAGE (16-19 AGE GROUP). DURING DISCUSSION, LOWBEER (SWEDEN) REITERATED

THAT WHILE PROJECT IS ACCEPTABLE, IT SHOULD BE MORE LIMITED IN SCOPE BECAUSE OF CERI'S LIMITED RESOURCES.

6. ALTERNATIVE RESOURCES AND TECHNOLOGIES FOR TEACHING AND LEARNING - CERI/CD(74)L3.

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THE PROJECT AS REVISED RECEIVED LITTLE SUPPORT. THE GB DID NOT PROPOSE WORK IN THIS FIELD BUT REQUESTED PROJECT BE FURTHER ELABORATED. GASS AGREED TO PURSUE PREPARATORY WORK AND SUBMIT DETAILED PROPOSALS DURING FIRST 1975 SESSION.

7. OTHER BUSINESS.

A) GASS REPORTED ON THE "EDUCATION OF THE HEALTH PROFESSIONS IN THE CONTEXT OF HEALTH CARE SYSTEMS" PROJECT, PREPARED BY AN AD HOC GROUP FINANCED BY A MACY FOUNDATION GRANT. THE COMPLETE REPORT NOW IN THE HANDS OF THE SECRETARY GENERAL WILL BE SUBMITTED TO THE COUNCIL SHORTLY. THE SG MAY DECIDE TO SUBMIT IT TO THE GOVERNING BOARD FOR FOLLOW-UP ACTION. A SUMMARY WAS

DISTRIBUTED DURING MEETING FOR INFORMATION ONLY
(CERI/CD(74)L4 BEING POUCHED).

B) GASS UNDERLINED THAT BUDGET PROPOSALS NOW WITH GB
INDICATE A DECREASE IN REAL TERMS OF 2 PERCENT.
HOWEVER, DUE TO INFLATION, THE COST TO MEMBERS WILL

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INCREASE 15-16 PERCENT "DEPENDING ON THE NUMBER OF FULL
PARTICIPATING GOVERNMENTS".

C) NESBIT REQUESTED SECRETARIAT TO SUBMIT PROGRESS
REPORTS ON ALL PROJECTS TO GB AND APPEALED FOR IMPROVED
CONSULTATIONS AND COMMUNICATIONS WITH THE GB. GASS
CONCURRED.

D) NEXT MEETING SCHEDULED FOR NOVEMBER 19-20, 1974.
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